

*now what!—*

# **CORVID-19 WEB FORUM**

## **Friday 12 June 2020**

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# Webforum Protocol



You will be on mute for the duration of the webforum



Slides and webcast will be available after the session on the UVAC & CDA website



Type into the question box and we will raise them during the session – **if we can unmute you we will !**



Raise your queries, read our FAQs or share what you know on the Centre for Degree Apprenticeships [HERE](#)



A quick survey follows the webinar close and contains space for comments or questions



## **BOOKINGS :**

**Covid-19 Forum**

**Friday 19** June 12.00pm [HERE:](#)

**Transition Webinar**

**Thursday 18 June 3.00 - 4.15 pm**

[Register HERE:](#)

# EVENTS & CDA UPDATE

Mandy Crawford-Lee

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# Sustainable Degree Apprenticeships

- *“Degree apprenticeships will deliver on productivity and social mobility aims if the report’s recommendations are implemented. This will not only avoid the risk of policy failure but will also help the UK economy recover from the coronavirus crisis”.* Professor Darryll Bravenboer, Director of Apprenticeships at Middlesex University
- *“I’m a passionate advocate of Degree Apprenticeships. They are key to fighting social injustice in higher education and meeting Britain’s skills deficit”.* Education Select Committee chair the Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP

<https://cda.uvac.ac.uk/sustainable-degree-apprenticeships/>

The image shows two screenshots of the Centre for Degree Apprenticeships website. The top screenshot displays the 'Documents and Reports' section with three featured items: 'Edge survey summary Feb 2020', 'Edge summary Feb 2020', and 'Sustainable Degree Apprenticeships Jun 2020'. The bottom screenshot shows a news section with a list of updates, including 'New case studies sought', a quote from Professor Darryll Bravenboer, 'Adrian Anderson, CEX, UVAC sets out The Purpose of Apprenticeships, the Rationale for the Apprenticeship Levy and the Role of Universities in Skills Provision', 'Degree Apprenticeship Knowledge Networks launch', and 'UVAC's Chair Professor Jane Longmore, VC at the University of Chichester, has outlined in an article in the Times Higher Education why the Apprenticeship ref...'. Three circular icons are overlaid on the bottom screenshot: 'Sustainable Degree Apprenticeships report', 'Coronavirus Impact FAQ', and 'Coronavirus Impact Discussion'.

# Key Messages

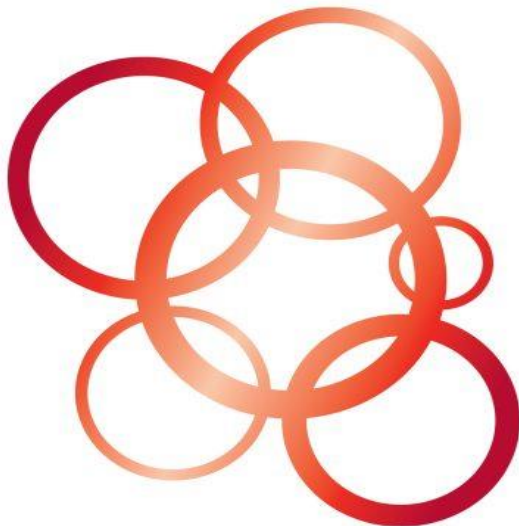
- Calls for HEIs to work with employers to embrace fully integrated, flexible degree apprenticeships
- For policy changes including a revision of the mandatory qualification rule, to sustain the degree apprenticeship initiative
- Promoting degree apprenticeships as a **distinctive “brand”**
- Developing effective and active provider-employer partnerships
- Designing fully-integrated degree apprenticeship programmes from the ground up, **adopting a digital first approach**
- Collaborating closely with employers to maximise workforce learning potential
- Policy stability for degree apprenticeships
- To promote progression routes through apprenticeship levels



# Knowledge Network – Social Worker

## CONTENT CALL OUT:

- **HOLD THE DATE:**  
**Monday 13 July**  
**10.00 - 12.30**
- Register your Interest, raise topics, questions, and offer contributions
- Input on successful practice, discussions on challenges and issues, view from employers and Professional bodies



**CENTRE  
FOR DEGREE  
APPRENTICESHIPS  
KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS**

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# THIS WEEK

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# This Week (\*\*see RESOURCES for annotated versions)

1. ESFA coronavirus response guidance & FAQ : 02.06
2. IfATE Corvid-19 FAQ: 06.05
3. ESFA UPDATE: 03.06
  
4. IfATE Corvid-19 Response – not updated
  
5. IfATE list of Agreed Flexibilities : **10.06 \*\*none for Higher Education**  
IfATE CEO on Coronavirus impact on EPA and EPAO
  
6. Updated EPA Guidance: 02.06
  
7. 2019/2020 Allocations 08.06 - *check yours for accuracy*
  
8. T-Level Implementation - latest
  
9. Update **10 06 20**
  1. Updated apprenticeships performance-management rules
  2. Procurement Policy Notice
  
10. OFS Advice to students on Delivery for 2021



# Selecting providers to deliver T Levels from Sept 2023

**For 2020 to 2022:** small group of providers to test & shape the programme – 46 on Sept 2020 list now

## **Rollout:**

- 3 T Levels available from September 2020:
  - digital production, design and development, design, surveying and planning for construction, education and childcare
  - see the Technical Qualifications (TQs) that have been approved so far [here](#)
- 7 in September 2021, 8 in September 2022, 7 in September 2023.

## **Approach for September 2023**

- All providers currently delivering 16 to 19 study programmes now eligible to deliver some of the available T Levels from September 2023:
- T Levels that were introduced in 2020 and 2021 will be able to be delivered by any providers delivering 16 to 19 study programmes
- T Levels introduced in 2022 and 2023 will be able to be delivered by Ofsted Good and Outstanding providers only
- Providers will no longer have to submit evidence of prior experience of delivering similar subjects or financial health. We will announce how providers can register their intentions to deliver T Levels from 2023 in January 2021.

**UPDATE 10 06 20**

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# PPN 04/20



Cabinet Office

## Procurement Policy Note – Recovery and Transition from COVID-19

Action Note PPN 04/20

June 2020

### Issue

1. This Procurement Policy Note (PPN) sets out information and guidance for public bodies on payment of their suppliers to ensure service continuity during the current coronavirus, COVID-19, outbreak. It updates and builds on the provisions contained in PPN 02/20.

### Action

2. All contracting authorities should:
- Review their contract portfolio, including where they are providing any contractual relief due to COVID-19 and, if appropriate to maintain delivery of critical services, continue or commence measures in line with PPN 02/20.
  - Work in partnership with their suppliers and develop transition plans to exit from any relief as soon as reasonably possible. This should include agreeing contract variations if operational requirements have changed significantly.
  - Work in partnership with their suppliers, openly and pragmatically, during this transition to ensure contracts are still relevant and sustainable and deliver value for money over the medium to long term.
  - Continue to pay suppliers as quickly as possible, on receipt of invoices or in accordance with pre-agreed milestone dates, to maintain cash flow and protect jobs.

### Dissemination and Scope

3. This PPN is applicable to all contracting authorities, including central government departments, executive agencies, non-departmental public bodies, local authorities, NHS bodies and the wider public sector (excluding the Devolved Administrations). Together these are referred to in this PPN as 'contracting authorities.' This PPN covers goods, services and works contracts being delivered in the UK (including PFI and PF2 contracts).

4. Please circulate this PPN across your organisation and to other relevant organisations that you are responsible for, drawing it to the specific attention of those with a commercial and finance role.

### Timing

5. Effective from 1 July to 31 October 2020.

### Background

6. As the Government moves into the next phase of the response to the COVID-19 outbreak, it is clear that this is not a short term crisis. It is possible that across the world, COVID-19 will circulate in the human population long-term, creating a risk of periodic epidemics. The Government will need to steadily redesign the current social distancing measures with new, smarter measures that reflect the level of risk at that point in time, and carefully wind down economic support schemes while people are eased back into work.

7. In this next phase, the supplier relief provisions set out in PPN 02/20 may still be appropriate. These provisions are intended to ensure Accounting Officers and contracting authorities are able to support suppliers at risk to be better able to cope with the crisis so they can resume delivery of critical services and fulfil their contractual obligations. This includes proactively considering and making payment in advance of need due to the impact of COVID-19 and/or providing relief against their current contractual terms, for example relief on KPIs and service credits, to maintain service continuity. The contracting authority has the final decision on whether it deems a supplier at risk and the form of any relief.

8. But contracting authorities and their suppliers now also need to work in partnership to plan an eventual exit from any relief and transition to a new, sustainable, operating model taking into account strategic and reprioritisation needs. In some cases, it is possible that the basic commercial assumptions that underpinned the viability of the original contract can no longer be maintained. Contracting authorities and their suppliers will need to work in partnership, openly and pragmatically, during this transition to ensure that contracts are still sustainable.

9. It may be necessary for the parties to discuss contract termination. If a contracting authority views a contract as no longer relevant or viable, they should work with the supplier to pursue termination based on the existing contractual remedies. Unreasonable expectations around transfer of risk and cost are likely to increase the probability of contract failures and may mean suppliers exit the market and weaken competition. The Outsourcing Playbook sets out how contracting authorities should constructively engage with suppliers.

10. Central Government organisations should note that Managing Public Money prohibits payment in advance of need in absence of Treasury consent as this is always novel, contentious and repercussive. However, in the circumstances Treasury consent is granted for payments in advance of need where the Accounting Officer is satisfied that a value for money case is made by virtue of securing continuity of supply of critical services in the medium and long term. This consent is capped at 25% of the total value of the contract and applies until the end of October 2020. Consent for payment in advance of need in excess of this amount should be sought from HM/T in the usual way. This consent does not alleviate Accounting Officers from their usual duties to ensure that spending is regular, proper and value for money or for other contracting authorities to conduct appropriate and proportionate due diligence to ensure such payments are necessary for continuity of supply of critical services.

11. Suppliers to the public sector are not automatically entitled to payment or other relief under this PPN. Supplier relief payments are not intended to be an economic response to this emergency, nor to supplement or duplicate the wider business support measures that have been made available to UK businesses.

12. Continuing to make payments to suppliers will present risks including that, despite these exceptional actions, a supplier may still become insolvent. These risks will need to be

# Updated Performance Management Rules

- Updated to cover apprenticeship non-levy extensions from 1 April 2020.
- When allocations were issued ESFA expected to review allocations using R09 data (April data submitted in May) to set funding for carry-in learners.
- Not all providers were able to submit full R09 data so this is postponed - ESFA to communicate more information shortly
- Confirms extended non-levy contracts for 12 months to cover the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. (via both contracts and the Apprenticeship Service)

## **Funds :**

- New starts from 1.4.20 to 31.3.21
- Ongoing costs for starts from 1.4.20 to 31.3.21
- Carry-in costs for starts from 1.1.18 to 31.3.20
- NO NEW MONEY / NO GROWTH / NO OVER DELIVERY (above allocation incl carry-in)
- Any new starts that would cause you to exceed your contract value should be routed through the Apprenticeship Service.

# Updated Performance Management Rules

- ESFA will review your allocation during summer 2020 to check for accuracy.
- Your allocation may be adjusted if at the review points your performance against the standard national profile (set out in Annex A) is outside the tolerance.
- ‘May change this approach if there are exceptional circumstances’.
- Can only vire funds a) at review points b) from 19+ to 16 – 18

## Annex B – Review point for procured non-levy allocations

Table 1. Apprenticeships new starts from 1 January 2018 review point, tolerances and minimum thresholds

	Review point
Delivery information using the latest validated ILR data you provide	4 September 2020 (R01 data return)
Deadline for virement requests	4 September 2020
Tolerance for under-delivery	8%
Lower threshold for allocation reductions	£25,000
Providers notified of the outcome	October 2020



# PREPARING FOR 2020/2021

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# Reading the Runes – 6 weeks to go

8M people with wages paid by government

Likely significant rise in redundant Apprentices

Decline in jobs, and therefore starts in 2020/2021

Increased need to retrain – ‘upskilling not reskilling’

Impact different by sector, area, group

Supply side survival - loss of provision in core and specialist occupations

# Reading the Runes – 6 weeks to go

## Targeted support Packages?

- Geographically
- Sectorally
- For 'key' occupations or sectors
- For priority and disadvantaged groups

## Incentives & Uplifts?

- Key sectors or skills 'in growth'
- Removal of SME employer contribution?
- Increased Levy Transfer value?
- More bursaries for apprentices or subsidies for employers ?

## 'New' Infrastructure?

- Return of ATAs and other support services?
- Widening the eligible skills offer: shorter programmes - pre training, top ups, start ups,
- Apprenticeship 'guarantee'



# POLICY UPDATE

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# RESOURCES

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# Resources from Today's Session

1. **IfATE list of Agreed Flexibilities** : **10.06 \*\***none for Higher Education  
**See the UVAC version with changes highlighted in yellow HERE**
2. **2019/2020 Allocations** **08.06 - *check yours for accuracy***
3. **T-Level Implementation Update**
4. **ESFA Update** **10 06 20**
  - **Updated apprenticeships performance-management rules**
  - **Procurement Policy Notice**

# Further Information



- Listen to the 12 June Forum Webcast: [HERE](#)
- June 19 Forum 12.00 Register [HERE](#)
- **Register for the 18 June TRANSITION WEBINAR [HERE](#)**



- Queries: email me [r.rhodes@Bolton.ac.uk](mailto:r.rhodes@Bolton.ac.uk) or post
- [questions on the COVID-19 Forum Page](#)



- [ESFA COVID Response for apprenticeships](#)
- [IFATE Response for end-point assessment :](#)  
[enquiries.ifa@education.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries.ifa@education.gov.uk)  
(title in the subject box: EPA\_Covid 19 plus your org name)
- DfE coronavirus helpline – Telephone 0800 046 8687